Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 02991 091705Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 PRS-01 L-03 EB-07 ACDA-07 MC-02 AID-05 COME-00 /072 W ------100315Z 098359 /20

R 091648Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4214
INFO JCS WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 2991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MASS, EC

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SPECIFICATIONS AND COST OF I-HAWK MISSILES

REF: QUITO 2438

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE (FAE) COMMANDER BG LUIS LEORO REQUESTING COMPLETE DATA ON AND OFFER OF HAWK MISSILES. LETTER MENTIONS SPECIFICATIONS, COST AND POSSIBILITIES FOR FINANCING. IT NOTES THAT THE FAE MUST DEVELOP AN INTEGRATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM INCLUDING SHORT AND LONG RANGE RADAR, SECURE COMMUNICATIONS, AND A RADAR-CONTROLLED ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY. THE LETTER ADDS THAT A RESPONSE ON THE HAWK WILL BE NECESSARY FOR THE FAE TO GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE RAYTHEON COMPANY OFFER.

2. RAYTHEON REPS SHOWED EMBASSY ON MAY 6 A COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TO THE MFA TRANS-MITTING THE LETTER TO US ON HAWK MISSILES AND ASKING THE MFA TO INSTRUCT ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, GUSTAVO YCAZA, TO PUSH HARD FOR A RESPONSE. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. COMMENT: REFERENCE TO OFFER OF RAYTHEON COMPANY APPEARS TO BE A CLEAR ATTEMPT BY LEORO TO TIE FAVORABLE DECISION ON RAYTHEON OFFER OF AN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM, WORTH SOME \$110 MILLION, TO A FAVORABLE DECISION ON PROVIDING I-HAWK MISSILES. WHILE LETTER REFERS ONLY TO HAWK, WE ARE CERTAIN LEORO IS TALKING ABOUT THE I-HAWK.

EMBASSY HAS SENT A TEMPORIZING RESPONSE TO LEORO, AND WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID A FINAL ANSWER AT LEAST UNTIL THE QUESTIONS OF PROVIDING AN AIR DEFENSE SURVEY TEAM IS RESOLVED (REFTEL). AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, OUR HOPE IS THAT WE CAN GET THE GOE TO ACCEPT AN AIR DEFENSE SURVEY AND THAT SUCH A SURVEY WOULD NOT INDICATE A NEED FOR THE I-HAWK.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT DEPARTMENT NOT TRANSMIT ANY DECISION ON A BRIEFING AND P&A DATE ON THE I-HAWK PENDING A DECISION ON THE AIR DEFENSE SURVEY TEAM. AN OFFER OF AN AIR DEFENSE SURVEY TEAM WOULD BE A BETTER WAY TO RESPOND TO LEORO'S LETTER THAN A FLAT DENIAL OF THE I-HAWK.

5. COPY OF LETTER AND OUR INTERIM REPLY BEING POUCHED TO ARA/AND/E.
BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

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Control Number: n/a

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: REQUEST FOR SPECIFICATIONS AND COST OF I-HAWK MISSILES

TAGS: MILI, MASS, EC

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